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we at once satisfied ourselves on the point; but on examining most carefully the belligerents, we found them so completely to correspond both in shape and colour, that no doubt could be admitted of their all belonging to the same species. The battle so celebrated by the immortal Homer, was, in fact, a "trifle light as air" to this contest: his was but the creation of an exuberant fancy—here was flesh and blood in reality.

Hoping, Sir, that the occurrence may meet the eye of some naturalist who will be able to enter more at length into the merits of the case, I remain yours, faithfully;

A. De B.

*Cottage Terrace, June, 1834.*

#### POPULAR LECTURES ON THE PHYSIOLOGY OF ANIMALS,

*The following is an abstract of Dr. Henry's second Lecture:*

The scarf, or *outside skin*, which is that we touch by laying the hand on our body, is, excepting on the palms and soles, nearly transparent; the true skin under it is red, being full of minute blood-vessels carrying red blood. How, then, are we to account for the different colours in the human race; white, black, tawney, red, copper, yellow, &c.? There is an intermediate substance between the scarf or outer, and true skin, called the mucous network, of very delicate texture, and carrying in its meshes a coloured pigment or paint. In the negro this network is very much developed; and the coloring matter contained in its interstices is of a deep black, which being seen through the nearly transparent outer skin, gives the black colour to the negro. On the palms and soles of the Negro, the outer skin is so thick as scarcely to allow this pigment to be seen through it, and therefore these parts of his body have the dirty white colour of the scarf-skin, rendered a little darker only by the pigment being seen very indistinctly through it. In the white man this network is much thinner, and more delicate, and has a slightly grey tinge: the color of the white is the result of the combined colors of the nearly transparent outer skin and net work, with the red color of the true skin seen dimly through them. The use of the coloring matter is to protect the sensitive and delicate parts underneath from the influence of light, as that of the outer, or scarf-skin, is to protect the same parts from the effects of friction and pressure; we, therefore, find it, like the scarf-skin, produced according to the occasion for it. The skin becomes first freckled, then tanned, and then swarthy by exposure to the light, and reverts to its original state again when the light is excluded. An argument has been drawn against the truth of that history, which refers all mankind to one common stock, from the extreme difference of colour between the European and Negro: but this argument is founded on an imperfect consideration of the subject. It is true, indeed, that the Negro child is of a very dark colour in the womb, and becomes black soon after birth; but this does not prove that there must always have been a black race of men, for that colour might have been gradually acquired in the course of many generations, until at last it became hereditary; or what is more probable, the black, or at least a dark colour, may have been the colour of the original stock, and his may, on the one hand, have degenerated into white, and on the other hand have become developed under accidental circumstances of climate and clothing, until it became in some races quite black.\* The true skin varies in thickness, being strong where strength is required, and thin on those parts not much exposed to friction. As the true skin contains a multitude of blood-vessels, carrying red blood, it contributes much to the colour of the face, especially of the cheeks, in those races where the pigment

is almost imperceptible, as in the white man. Under excitement of mind, or exercise of body, the blood flows in increased quantities to the skin, producing the flushed face; while, under depressing passions, as fear, and under fatigue, the vessels of the skin become less full, and paleness is the result. The paleness is extreme in fainting, during which the blood-vessels become nearly as empty as in death. These changes of colour are much less perceptible in the dark-colored races, because in them the pigment interposes a veil between the eye and the blood-vessels. In some animals the changes of color are very remarkable; as in the Chameleon, the tubercles of whose skin being yellow, when the animal is seen in a quiescent state, it appears of that colour, but when irritated, the blood flows in great quantities to the skin, and being seen through the transparent yellow tubercles, the purple colour of the blood united to the yellow of the tubercles gives the animal a green colour.

The use of the skin is to protect the internal parts; this appears more obviously in those animals who have thicker hides than it does in man. We make garments of the hides of other animals. The skin is not only a protecting organ, but also a secreting or producing one. It produces those bulbs in the skin from which hair grows, the pigment that protects the internal parts from light, the outer skin, and also an oily substance which causes the water of a bath to gather in drops on the skin, as it does upon an oiled table. Some persons, who abound much in this secretion, come nearly dry out of a bath: it is most abundant, where there is hair, as on the scalp; and its use is to soften the hair, to render it pliant, and prevent it from cracking or chapping. It is produced by little follicles, crypts or bags embedded in the skin, which in some situations, as about the lips and nose, are so distinct, that the fatty matter, when concentered in them, can be squeezed out in the form of little worms.—Sometimes these follicles become so distended as to inflame, and thus disfigure the countenance greatly. This oily secretion renders the use of soap, in washing the body, necessary; and it is so abundant in woolly animals, as sheep, that much trouble is required to cleanse it, and fit it for manufacture. The large gland, which birds have for the production of oil, has been already mentioned. Another important use of the skin is the production of perspiration, which in health is always going on from the surface of the body, generally in a state of vapour, and not sensibly, but when increased in quantity, this vapour, especially in cold weather, becomes condensed, and is visible in the form of water called *sweat*.

This subject will be continued in the next.

#### ON MUSIC.

There is a language in the tone,  
Which breathes from music's string;  
It speaks of years for ever flown,  
Of youth's hesperient spring!  
There is a language in the peal—  
The cadence of its wire;  
Then memory's cup doth fondly deal  
Its spirit-soothing fire!

I've felt, I've own'd its charm divine,  
As sorrow damp'd my brow;  
When friendship cool'd at friendship's shrine—  
When cross'd its deepest vow!  
How soothing when at pensive calm  
Of eve's ambrosial hour,  
It off flings round my soul a balm  
Of sympathetic power!

What spot of earth, say, shall we find  
Without its magic spell?  
Its voice is in the varying wind—  
It breathes in Ocean's swell;  
Its voice is in the warbling rill,  
In marble cave 'twill sigh;  
In grove, in glen, its language still  
Behoos from earth to sky!

ANGLINA.

\* In confirmation of this opinion it may be further observed, that the division of the human race into black and white is not correct, the colour varying from white to black through an infinite variety of intermediate shades, yellow, brown, red, tawny, &c., &c., and these shades again running into each other by insensible gradations.